

Appl.No.: 09/732,337
Amendment dated April 5, 2004
Response to Office Action mailed January 5, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration are hereby requested.

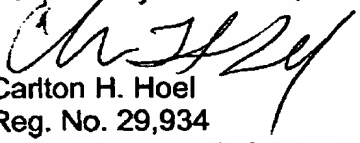
Claims 1-5, 8-11, 14-16, and 19-20 were rejected as unpatentable over Drogo de lacovo in view of Wuppermann. The Examiner cited Drogo de lacovo for a wide band coder subdividing into subbands and a downsampler (Fig.1 CMB) for the lower subband and added Wuppermann for a highband coder without downsampling (Fig.1 #64).

Applicants reply that Drogo de lacovo subdivides into subbands and downsamples each subband (column 4, lines 8-12, and Fig.1 samplers CMA and CMB); whereas, Wuppermann splits an input signal into a spectral portion (band) for time-domain coding and a further spectral portion (band) for transform-domain coding (column 3, lines 37-41 and column 4, lines 3-6 and Fig.1 #66 for time domain and #64 for transform domain). There is no suggestion in Wuppermann of downsampling in either band; indeed, the input appears to be analog. Thus there is no suggestion to change Drogo de lacovo from downsampling in both subbands to downsampling only in the lower subband and not in the higher subband. Consequently, all three independent claims (claims 1, 10, and 16) are patentable over the references, and thus also the dependent claims.

Dependent claims 6-7, 12-13, and 17-18 were rejected as unpatentable over Drogo de lacovo, Wuppermann, and Manjunath.

Applicants rely on the patentability of the independent claims.

Respectfully submitted,


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